

In the Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A muffler, for an internal combustion engine,

the muffler comprising a housing (2) through which a gaseous medium flows and which has at least one housing chamber (3, 5), and

the muffler further comprising deflecting elements (13 to 16) that serve to make the gaseous medium swirl and that are arranged in a fixed manner spaced apart one behind another in the housing chamber along a main axis (19') of the housing,

wherein each one of the deflecting elements respectively comprises a disk-shaped body (17') having a set of radially extending guiding elements (18) being guide vanes as well as radially extending slots (18') respectively between the guide vanes, and extends over the clear cross section of the housing (2),

wherein each one of the guide vanes has a free leading edge along one of the slots and a free trailing edge along another of the slots,

wherein each one of the slots is respectively formed and bounded between the trailing edge of one of the guide vanes and the leading edge of a next adjacent one of the guide vanes of a respective one of the deflecting elements, and

wherein the respective sets of guide vanes of successive adjacent ones of the deflecting elements along

27 the main axis of the housing are respectively alternately
28 oppositely angled at opposite pitch angles so as to deflect
29 the flow of the gaseous medium respectively alternately in
30 opposite swirl directions about the main axis (19') of the
31 housing respectively in successive portions of the housing
32 chamber respectively between successive ones of the
33 deflecting elements.

2. (Canceled).

1 3. (Original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
2 disk-shaped bodies (17') are in each case slotted
3 rectilinearly.

1 4. (Original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein all
2 of the guiding elements (18) of a disk-shaped body (17')
3 are angled in the same direction.

1 5. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein the pitch angle (α) of the guiding elements (18) is
3 alternately positive and negative respectively on
4 successive ones of the deflecting elements.

1 6. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein radially outer ends of the guiding elements (18)
3 which are arranged at a distance from the main axis (19')
4 of the housing are more sharply angled than radially inner

ends of the guiding elements which are situated near the main axis (19') of the housing.

7. (Original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the guiding elements (18) are at least partially twisted in themselves.

8. (Original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disk-shaped body (17') as a blank is in the form of a circular ring.

9. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the guiding elements (18) are each respectively in the form of a sector of a circular ring.

10. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) are arranged with their guiding elements (18) between housing chamber parts which do not contain deflecting elements.

11. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the deflecting elements (13 to 16) respectively forms a respective muffler stage.

12. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, comprising the arrangement of at least three of the deflecting elements (13 to 16) each forming a muffler stage.

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1 13. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein each deflecting element has approximately 10 to 40
3 guiding elements (18) which are each in the form of a
4 sector of a circular ring in layout.

1 14. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) each integrally
3 have a hub part (17) with the slots (18') extending
4 radially outwardly therefrom and with the guide vanes
5 extending integrally radially outwardly therefrom.

1 15. (Original) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the
2 deflecting elements (13 to 16) are in each case arranged on
3 a supporting pipe (11) which conducts the gaseous medium.

1 16. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) are manufactured
3 in each case as disk-shaped bodies (17') from flat
4 sheet-metal rings forming disk blanks in which the slots
5 are formed as narrow slots (18') which extend radially and
6 rectilinearly from the outside to the inside.

17. (Canceled).

1 18. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein the pitch angles of successive ones of the

deflecting elements which are inclined in opposite directions have the same absolute angular value.

19. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein the deflecting elements (13 to 16) are arranged with a hub part (17) on a supporting element 11 arranged centrally in the housing (2).

20. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein an axial length of the housing (2) or at least of a housing part (3, 5) is dimensioned in such a manner that a number of deflecting elements (13 to 16) adapted to a particular application can be fitted therein.

21. (Currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A combination comprising the muffler as claimed in claim 1 connected to an i, for and in connection with the internal combustion engine of a model aircraft.

22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1, wherein each one of the deflecting elements further includes a hub from which the guide vanes extend radially outwardly, and wherein the guide vanes are connected to the hub only at respective radially inner root ends of the guide vanes and are otherwise not connected to one another in the respective deflecting element.

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1 **24.** (Previously presented) The muffler as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein at least a portion of the housing chamber is a
3 gaseous medium calming section that is hollow and
4 unoccupied by the deflecting elements.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

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